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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Confirmation No. 6608**
Frederic Maurice NAUD et al. : Attorney Docket No. 2005_0669A
Serial No. 10/536,883 : Group Art Unit 1621
Filed June 1, 2005 : Examiner Karl J. Puttlitz

CATALYTIC HYDROGENATION OF
CARBON-HETEROATOM DOUBLE BONDS : **Mail Stop: Amendment**

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action of January 15, 2008, Applicants submit the following remarks in support of the patentability of the presently claimed invention over the disclosure of the reference relied upon by the Examiner in rejecting the claims. Further and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of these remarks.

Thus, the rejection of claims 19-36 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Genet et al. (US 5,614,641) is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner apparently takes the position that the catalysts used in the process of the present invention are the same as those set forth in the Genet et al. reference, since the Examiner states that the difference between the process set forth in the rejected claims and the process disclosed in the reference is that the reference fails to explicitly teach the specific substrates covered.

However, the Genet et al. reference is directed to a catalytic process for hydrogenation of ketones using a **four-coordinated** ruthenium complex of general formula (I):